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CONCENTRATION CAMPS IN GERMANY

Description

A factual description of concentration camps located within the 1937 boundaries of Germany: their administration and discipline; classification of prisoners, official and unofficial; the routine of camp life; activities and attitudes of inmates.

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Summary

Concentration camps are among the fundamental institutions of the Nazi regime. They serve to detain or eliminate, without indictment or trial, and without possibility of appeal, any person within the reach of the Nazi machinery inside or outside Germany. By virtue of this constant threat to the life of every citizen, regardless of his real guilt or responsibility, the concentration camps exercise terroristic influence far beyond their physical boundaries.

The actual number of interned persons provides no clue to the numerical strength of the anti-Nazi opposition in Germany; apart from the relatively small stratum of the known opposition leaders and activists, it is more or less a matter of chance who among the opposition may be put into a camp. Chief among the inmates were always great numbers of Jews, for it was against this group of citizens that the Nazis first directed their terror; recent reports, however, indicate that few Jews remain in the German concentration camps, having for the most part been either executed or sent to Polish camps.

The German concentration camps with which this study is concerned are prison camps for political and criminal prisoners under the authority of the Gestapo and the SS, located within the 1937 boundaries of Germany. They are distinguished from prisons, Strafgefangenenlager (under the authority of the Ministry of Justice) and prisoner of war camps (under the authority of the Army).

The camps were first established after the Presidential Emergency Decree of 28 February 1933 had suspended the basic civil rights of the German people and eliminated the safeguards against arbitrary imprisonment. Those who were arrested under

this, and subsequent Reich and state laws, were interned in the type of compounds known as "concentration camps." Besides serving as places of internment, the camps also serve as training grounds for the SS personnel and as a source for slave labor.

The administrative structure of the camps is geared to the administrative structure of the SS itself. The officials, however, recruit trustworthy prisoners for various subordinate posts, mostly concerned with organization of the barracks life, the supervision of the inmates, and the direction of their work. The appointment of prisoner officials, moreover, is used as an instrument of control over the prisoners' lives, for the Nazis create among the inmates of the camps a distinct stratification by giving one group of prisoners temporary power and control over the others. This method, which is illustrated by the alternating rule of political prisoners and criminals in the camps, has been developed by the Nazis to ensure lack of unity among the inmates.

While punishment in the concentration camps is supposedly governed by an official order issued by the SS official in charge of the entire system, the individual SS-man has almost unrestricted latitude in this regard. The punishments may take the form of restrictions, torture, or death. Especially in the case of Jewish prisoners, the punishment may take the form of "revenge," for the Nazis consider Jewish prisoners as hostages for the acts of Jews outside Germany.

Prisoners are committed to concentration camps under a variety of charges. According to the nature of these charges, the prisoner wears a special triangular emblem upon his costume. The major groupings are: political prisoners;

criminals; asocials; Jehovah's Witnesses; homosexuals; emigrants; "race polluters," Norwegians, Poles, German army deserters, black marketeers, second-termers, the insane, blind, and deaf also wear distinctive insignia.

These prisoners comprise "vertical groups" within the society of the prison camps and carry social and political implications important to the social life of the internees. The political prisoners form the most significant class, enjoying a somewhat cohesive social existence. The criminals also have a special standing within the prison community, but this is due more to their use by the administration than because of any internal factors. The asocials are a large, somewhat amorphous group, whose crimes are often ill-defined and whose group life is on a low level.

Cutting across these so-called vertical groupings are other groups based upon factors of race, nationality, length of servitude, etc. With the exception of the Jews, none of these unofficial "horizontal" groupings is distinguished by any special badge.

Life within the camps, aside from the limited cultural activities which the men might attempt to pursue, is thoroughly regimented. A thirteen-hour work day is devoted to heavy labor including considerable war work. The food and medical care are sub-standard. Deaths and suicides are common, and in some cases suicides have actually been encouraged.

The prisoners have developed their own code and rules of conduct. Most important is the co-operative group life of the men, who form small self-help units designed to provide means for education and social intercourse, to augment the food supply, etc. The political prisoners, as representatives of the most cohesive and active element, are leaders in organizing such units. There is also some secret religious

activity. The prisoners' code regards escape as an anti-social act, because an entire camp is punished for the acts of an individual. If, however, the escapee is considered of real importance to the underground, the prisoners are in some cases willing to make an exception in their judgment. On the other hand, the prisoners practice as much secret sabotage as possible. They have purposely constructed flimsy camp structures, buried tools, and slowed down work.

Lately, the Nazis have apparently taken an increasing number of people out of the camps and sent them as special formations to the front. Furthermore, the manpower shortage may have compelled the Nazis to use more inmates for war work, either in the camps or in nearby plants. It would be incorrect to infer, however, that this has depleted the concentration camps to any great extent or improved the lot of the interned. Numerous reports state that, with the rapidly deteriorating military situation, the Nazis are rounding up more leaders and members of the potential opposition.

The herding together of large numbers of anti-Nazis in isolated and well-guarded camps would enable the Nazis to use the prisoners as political hostages in the hour of final defeat, for their physical extermination could be accomplished in a matter of minutes.

The appendix discusses only concentration camps within the 1937 boundaries of Germany and lists all camps known to have been in operation at any time between 30 January 1933 and 30 March 1944. An effort was also made to compile references to camps of unknown location. A map showing the known camps is appended.

CONCENTRATION CAMPS IN GERMANY

I. LEGAL BASIS FOR DETENTION

Concentration camps were first established in Germany after the promulgation of the Presidential Emergency Decree of 28 February 1933. This decree, "in the interest of state security," suspended the basic civil rights of the German people for an indeterminate period and thereby eliminated the legal safeguards against arbitrary imprisonment. Though specifically directed against Communists, this decree was eventually interpreted by the courts as applying to all "enemies of the state" whose detention was considered necessary for state security. An explicit legal basis for the camps was introduced in the rules governing protective custody (Schutzhaft) laid down in a circular of the Reich Ministry of Interior, 12 April 1934.

From the beginning of the Third Reich, it became the general practice to place two groups of prisoners in concentration camps. The first group included persons who were considered to be either enemies of the state or otherwise undesirable but who could not be convicted of any crime. The second group consisted of persons who had been convicted of crimes and had served their legal sentences but who were still considered too dangerous to be released.

Other types of persons were also placed in prison camps. Under the Criminal Code, Section 42e (law of 24 November 1933), courts were empowered to sentence habitual criminals, who had committed new crimes, to indefinite terms in prison camps (Strafgefangenenlager). Furthermore, by the decrees of the Prussian Prime Minister of 13 November 1933 (II C. II 31 No. 336/33) and of 10 February 1934 (II C. II 32 No. 27/34) dangerous habitual criminals, who had not necessarily committed new crimes, could be taken into

preventive policy custody (Vorbeugende Polizeihaft); this action amounted practically to protective custody. The prison camps to which such persons are sent should be distinguished from the better-known concentration camp and attention will be directed to this latter type.

Persons arrested and sent to concentration camps come under the authority of the Gestapo. Release from the camps is at the discretion of the Gestapo, and the courts have decided that Gestapo prisoners have no legal access to regular courts. Paragraph 7 of the Prussian law of 10 February 1936, moreover, denied such prisoners access to the administrative courts.

In some cases, criminals have been transferred to concentration camps because the regular prisons were over-crowded. The Ministry of Justice maintains jurisdiction over the transferred prisoners until the completion of their terms, after which they may be detained under the jurisdiction of the Gestapo.

Most prisoners in the concentration camps fall into the first group noted above; they are persons considered to be enemies of the state or otherwise undesirable in the eyes of the regime.

The German Government does not publish any official data on the activities of the Gestapo or on the number and location of concentration camps, nor is official material available from any other government during the period 1933-1939. Consequently, in the preparation of this study the only sources for this period are reports of the several German political parties in exile, together with information gathered from former prisoners in the various camps. After 1939, reports on these camps were issued by a number of governments-in-exile, and when considered reliable these reports have also been used.

II. PURPOSE AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS

In addition to the primary function of imprisoning enemies of the state and certain others, concentration camps also serve to train SS men in brutality, in methods of breaking civilian resistance, and in experiments for rendering opposition elements harmless. Until 1940 every member of SS Deathhead Units (SS Totenkopf Standarten) spent at least three months of his training as a guard or officer in a concentration camp.[1]

The very existence of the camps serves to intimidate and reduce opposition among the population at large and thereby acts as a deterrent to opposition to the Nazi regime. This function is achieved by indirect methods. For example, released prisoners are required to sign a statement that their imprisonment was voluntary, that they have been well treated and that no brutalities have been committed by the camp authorities against them or anybody else to the best of their knowledge. Each prisoner is examined before he is allowed to leave the camp, and no one is permitted to leave if his body shows any sign of torture. The released prisoners are required to report to the Gestapo offices regularly (in some cases twice a day), and are forbidden to speak to anybody about their experiences on pain of re-incarceration.

The inhabitants of the concentration camps provide a source of slave labor. The camps and all the surrounding buildings, installations, and roads have been built by the prisoners. Prisoners have also been used to drain marshes, etc. Many of the camps contain state factories where a great variety of goods is manufactured.

No information is available on the administration of concentration camps before 1936. Probably the local Gestapo

1. Bruno Bettelheim: "Individual and Mass Behavior in Extreme Situations" Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, Vol. 38 No. 4., Oct. 1943, p. 417.

officials were in charge of the camps. The Prussian law and decree of 10 February 1936 placed concentration camps under the authority of the Gestapo, a provision which was later informally extended to the whole Reich.

After 1936 SS Obergruppenführer Theodor Eicke was put in charge of all German concentration camps and was given the title. Leader (Commander or Inspector) of SS Deathhead Regiments and Concentration Camps /Führer (Kommandant oder Inspector) der SS Totenkopf Standarten und der Konzentrationslager/.[1] Eicke was responsible only to Reichsführer SS Himmler. Since 1937 Eicke and his staff have had their headquarters outside the Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin.[2] Even after the incorporation of the SS Totenkopf Standarten in the Waffen SS as SS Panzer Grenadier Division Totenkopf, this staff remained officially in charge of the concentration camps.[3] Eicke was reported to have died on 26 February 1943, but there has been no official confirmation of his death or information on his successor.[4] It is possible that either SS Obergruppenführer August Heissmeyer, the Inspector General of all German boarding and party schools, or SS Obergruppenführer Erger was put in charge of the camps.[5]

A. Administrative Officers

Every camp has a Camp Commander who is responsible only to the Leader-Inspector. The Camp Commander has a dual

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1. R & A #90. Public Order, Police and Elite Guard, 13 November 1942, p. 60.
2. Danziger Vorposten, 26 January 1939; also interrogation of two former prisoners of Sachsenhausen who worked on this building.
3. R & A #90. Public Order, Police and Elite Guard, 13 November 1942, p. 78.
4. New York Times, 4 March 1943.
5. CID #47292.

role, for he is in charge of the SS camp and at the same time is supervisor and supreme commander of the concentration camp.[1]

Usually the Camp Commander holds at least the rank of Sturmbannführer and has under him the Commander of the Protective Custody Camp (Kommandant des Schutzhaftlagers). This official holds at least the rank of a Hauptsturmführer, and has more to do with the daily life of the prisoners than his superior. The Camp Commander appoints his staff, consisting of thirty to forty noncommissioned officers (Rottenführer and above) and a few commissioned officers (Untersturmführer and above) as chiefs of the hospital, kitchen, post office, bureau of construction, etc. Most of the noncommissioned officers are in charge of one or more barracks (Blocks), with the title Barrack Leader (Blockführer). Many of the Barrack Leaders are "old fighters" of some years' standing in the SS or the party; consequently, they are older men than the guards. The Barrack Leaders are in frequent contact with the prisoners since they usually inspect the barracks twice a day.

B. Guards

Until 1940, every member of the SS Deathhead Units was required to perform guard duty for at least three months. Since 1940 guard duty has been performed more and more by men from the Allgemeine SS who have been made reservists of the Deathhead Units, and some reports state that SA men and disabled soldiers function as camp guards.[2] The number of guards in each camp is between 250 and 300. Their duties require them to man the machine gun towers, to perform sentry

1. The larger concentration camps, like Sachsenhausen, Dachau, or Buchenwald, are parts of big SS camps.
2. CID #37292, 19 May 1943.

duty, to guard prisoners working outside the camp, and to be on the alert for any emergency.

C. Prisoner Officials

The Commander of the camp appoints trustworthy prisoners as prisoner officials. The highest prisoner official is the Camp Senior (Lageräl̈tester). He controls all the other prisoner officials and exercises as much power as a Blockfü̈hrer. Important, too, is the Chief Foreman (Obercapo) who is responsible to the Chief of the Construction-Bureau (Baufü̈hrer) for the work done in the camp. Next in rank is the Chief Clerk (Lagerschreiber) who in most camps has his own office. Appointments are also made to lower posts such as foremen (Capos), minor clerks for the administrative offices, and helpers in the hospital and in the supply room, etc. All these prisoner officials are appointed by the Commander or the commissioned officers. Sometimes the camp officials use prisoners for their own purposes such as cleaning quarters, shining shoes, etc., or they may select a prisoner to serve as a personal orderly (Kalfaktor).

The Blockfü̈hrer also appoints prisoner officials to help him run the barracks:

Barrack Senior (Blockäl̈tester) who commands the barracks and is a substitute of the Blockfü̈hrer;

Barrack Clerk (Blockschreiber) who keeps a roster of the prisoners and handles the mail;

Foreman (Capo) who is responsible for the efficiency and speed of the prisoners' work;

Room Senior (Stubenäl̈tester) who is responsible for the cleaning and order of the room and the inventory;

Canteen Man (Einkäufer) who handles the purchase of toilet articles and food for the prisoners at the canteen;

Barber (Friseur) who shaves the prisoners twice a week and cuts their hair every second week.

The Barracks Seniors and Room Seniors have the privilege of appointing barracks orderlies (Stubendienst). These are the only prisoner officials appointed by fellow prisoners.

The administration also employs a group of secret prisoner officials, called Kontrollore, whose purpose is to report on the conversation of prisoners and to watch for any who do not work. This informant's role is one which is both hated and feared by the prisoners.

Prisoner officials may report to the SS an infraction of the rules by a fellow prisoner, but they are not allowed officially to mete out any punishment. Actually, however, they have been known to beat prisoners in front of the SS, and often prisoners have been killed by prisoner officials under these circumstances.

An inmate, in order to become a prisoner official, must have been in the camp a long time and must have a good record. On an average there are about three prisoner officials to every hundred internees.

Until 1938 Jews were seldom used as prisoner officials. Later they were put in charge of Jewish barracks and working groups in order to isolate the Jews even more from the other prisoners. The Belgian Information Center, New York, reported that in a concentration camp at Breendonck, Belgium, German Jewish internees have served as prisoner officials.

D. Political Policy of the Administration

It is the policy of the SS Administration to play one group of prisoners against another in order to prevent any common action by the internees. This goal is most commonly achieved by alternating the appointment of the prisoner officials between the two most important groups of prisoners. The political prisoners will be put in charge of the camp

while the spying functions of the Kontrollore are assigned to criminals. After a certain time has elapsed, this division of functions is reversed; the criminals assume control of the prisoner officialdom and the politicals become the Kontrollore.

When the camp is run by the criminals, corruption usually prevails.[1] The SS administration thus faces a dilemma: the political prisoners are the most honest and, reliable and successfully root out the corruption engendered by the criminals; at the same time, they comprise the most politically conscious, best organized group within the camps.

For obvious reasons the political prisoners seek to have their best men appointed to the prisoner posts. They also endeavor to place men in the clerk's office where they may be able to secure information on releases and other matters. While the political prisoners are in power the criminal Kontrollore report every move of the politicals to the SS.

By thus playing off these prisoner groups against each other, the SS administration is assured of being successful in its application of a "divide and conquer" policy.

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1. In 1938 the criminals were in power in Buchenwald. During this period a large amount of food was smuggled in by SS men and distributed to well-to-do prisoners by the criminal prisoner officials. This racket was broken by the political prisoners and ended with the imprisonment of some SS men and the punishment of the criminal prisoners. After this incident, the political prisoners took over and kept their offices until the middle of 1939 when the SS administration decided that they were becoming too powerful.

III. PUNISHMENT IN THE CAMPS

In June 1935 an order prescribing discipline and punishment for use in concentration camps was issued by SS Obergruppenführer Theodor Eicke. This order, called Disziplinar und Strafvollzug für das Gefangenenlager, was drawn up originally for Camp Esterwegen, but later was used as a pattern for other camps.[1] This document is important in revealing the official attitude of camp authorities toward prisoners, but its application is limited by the fact that every SS-man is at once judge and executioner who can punish the prisoners at any time. SS men have given prisoners impossible orders and then have slain the prisoners when the orders were not carried out. SS men have shot prisoners on the spot without previous warning or questioning. In short, the official camp orders or penal regulations have no binding effect upon the guards and officials. The prisoners have no rights, no protection, and are subject to the arbitrary power of the SS administration.

The introduction to the Disziplinar reveals the severity and wilfulness which characterize the manner in which punishment is inflicted. It reads in part: "Tolerance means weakness. In recognition thereof, ruthlessness will be exercised when the interests of the Fatherland are at stake. The penal regulation will not affect the misguided but corrigible inmates. As for political agitators and intellectual demagogues, regardless of their persuasion, let this serve as a warning to them -- that if they are ever caught they will be grabbed by their throats and will be silenced after their own communistic methods."

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1. Der Strafvollzug im 3. Reich published by Union fuer Recht und Freiheit, Prag, 1936, p. 20.
This document was smuggled out of Germany in 1935 and published for the first time in the Manchester Guardian, and later in a number of books and pamphlets.

Punishment in the camps may be inflicted upon the prisoners, individually or in groups. Individual punishment may originate with a report either by an SS man or a prisoner official to the camp administration. Frequently an SS man will himself administer the punishment without reporting the prisoner's offense (a situation preferred by the prisoners), or the individual may be both punished and reported. For minor infractions a prisoner may be forced to stand at attention for a long period of time. This form of punishment may be imposed for at least a week, the prisoner reporting daily to the administration building for his stint. Minor infractions are also punished by withholding of mail or food, or by punishment drill. For major violations a prisoner may be hanged by his wrists from a tree for a period of from one to eight hours. Other major chastisements include flogging -- 25 to 100 lashes -- solitary confinement, or transfer to the punishment company. A prisoner may be punished by one or several of these methods.

The death penalty is meted out for sabotage, attacks upon the SS personnel, disobedience to orders, refusal to work, etc.

The ordinary prisoner more often receives collective punishments rather than individual punishment. This second type of penalty is imposed upon all prisoners if, for example, an escape is attempted or if the work performance is judged insufficient. In such cases, all the men will be subjected to one or more of the following punishments en masse: standing at attention; punishment drill; payment of fines; lengthening of working hours; deprivation of food, tobacco and mail; denial of medical care.

Collective punishment is frequently meted out as "revenge" and is most often imposed upon the Jewish prisoners.

Occasionally, other prisoner groups and sometimes the whole camp are subjected to this kind of treatment. The camp administrations naturally follows the Nazi Party line in holding Jewish prisoners responsible for allegedly hostile acts committed by Jews anywhere, but it also considers the prisoners of other categories as hostages for all other members of their category outside the camp, anywhere in the world.[1]

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1. In 1937 English and other foreign newspapers published reports on conditions in German concentration camps. The camp administration answered this by putting all Jewish prisoners for two months in specially prepared barracks without light and ventilation. Jewish prisoners were required to write letters to friends in other countries, asking them to stop the "atrocity stories" or else the Jewish prisoners would be punished. Such a letter is in possession of the American Jewish Congress Library in New York.

   In November 1938, following the killing of vom Rath in Paris, all Jewish prisoners in Buchenwald were punished by deprivation of mail, food, and medical care. After the bombing in the Munich Beer Hall on 9 November 1939, the SS authorities in Buchenwald executed twenty-seven Jews and punished the other Jewish prisoners by depriving them of food for five days. In May 1936, all Social Democratic and Communist prisoners of Dachau were punished as revenge for a political demonstration in Munich. There have been many similar incidents.

IV. PRISONER GROUPS AND CAMP LIFE

The prisoners in a concentration camp form a society, in which the different categories and groups of prisoners assume roles, Like any other large number of people who may be thrown together, they work out a system of cooperation and routine to smooth somewhat the difficulties of their life. This society of prisoners, like any other society, has its own standards by which to evaluate individuals and groups of prisoners, its own group-relations, its powerful leaders, its common man, and its "outsider."

When a prisoner is interned, he is placed by the SS authorities in what might be called a "vertical group" which is determined by the reason for his arrest. He also falls into some "horizontal group" which is determined by his "race," his nationality, and the length of time he has served.

A. Vertical Prisoner Groups

Membership in a vertical prisoner category is officially indicated by the triangular insignia every prisoner wears on the left breast of his jacket and on his right trouser leg. The prisoner's number is placed below the triangle.

1. Political Prisoners: Red Triangle. The category of the political prisoners includes all who were imprisoned for political reasons. In the society of the camps the politicals are the elite group and expect to be treated as such by the others. No effort is made, however, to keep men of differing political opinions apart. The politicals are the oldest category in the camps, and during the first years of National Socialism consisted mostly of Communists, Social Democrats, and trade unionists. As former members of left-wing organizations, they found it comparatively easy

to develop an organized community with a high standard of morale. Political prisoners of the other parties (including Nazis), who came later, formed a minority in the ranks of the political prisoners. Adaptation to camp conditions was difficult for these new prisoners, and they willingly accepted the leadership of the well-organized left-wing prisoners. Beginning in 1936, more and more non-political persons, such as malingerers and rumor-mongers (Miesmacher und Kritikasten) joined the category of political prisoners, but they too had to accept the existing leadership, because its advice and experience were important to the newcomers.

2. Criminals: Green Triangle. This category consists mainly of confirmed criminals who have been committed to a camp after having served one or more terms in penitentiaries. A smaller group of ex-convicts were brought to the camps for "preventive" custody following the round-ups of former criminals from 1935 to 1939. To the same category also belongs a small number of prisoners who were sentenced for killing or robbery in connection with political affairs.

The criminals are a powerful group in the camp society -- not as a consequence of their group life or morale, but because many prisoner officials are drawn from their ranks. In the capacity of Capos, for example, they have proved to be more relentless than members of other categories. Their development into an organized group is difficult, however, because the criminals are much less willing than the politicals to make personal sacrifices in the interests of their fellows. The many instances of corruption on their part and their bad behavior as prisoner officials make the criminals a distrusted and sometimes hated group in the society of prisoners.

3. Asocials or "Work-shy" Prisoners: Black Triangle. This category of prisoners originally included vagrants

and habitual beggars. Later the group was enlarged by the addition of persons who came into conflict with the welfare authorities for failure to support their families, divorced wives, or illegitimate children. Beginning in 1935, more and more individuals were sent to the camps as "asocials" -- persons who had not complied with the labor regulations, i.e., had changed jobs without approval of the Employment Office, had refused to accept a job offered by the Employment Office, or had taken part in labor disputes.

From 1937 to 1939, the category of asocials was further enlarged as a result of round-ups especially among gigolos, nightclub waiters and entertainers, small craftsmen, and repairmen. The two latter groups, obviously, served as a source of cheap labor. Quite a number of lower and intermediate officials of the different Nazi organizations have been incarcerated for drunkenness or disorderly conduct and joined to the asocial group. After the conquest of Austria, whole tribes of Gypsies were jailed as asocials.

The numerous round-ups have made the asocials the largest category in the concentration camps, but at the same time they are the lowest group in the social structure of the prisoners. Unlike the politicals, the asocial prisoners, because of their widely diverse background, do not form a community; nor are they capable of developing into a group of individualists like the criminals. The more intellectual elements among them seek to make contact with either the politicals or the criminals in order to establish some tie with the important prisoner groups.

4. Jehovah's Witnesses: Violet Triangle. Jehovah's Witnesses (Ernste Bibelforscher) are a small religious group with a high morale. Even in the camps their organization continues, and their leaders speak freely to anyone about

their ideas. They are imprisoned for being conscientious objectors and for their refusal to give the Hitler salute; as a religious group opposed to National Socialism they refuse to go underground. To prevent them from propagandizing in the camps, they are sometimes separated from the other prisoners by transfer to a punishment company. But such acts encourage their solidarity. They are awaiting the Judgment . Their belief that they will be the executors of God's will at the Judgment Day gives them a moral power of resistance that is superior to that of any other group in the camp. Every hardship they undergo they consider a test by Jehovah to discover the faithful. Jehovah's Witnesses are respected by all prisoners, even by those who do not share their opinions.

5. Homosexuals: Pink Triangle. The homosexuals are a small category; the majority were convicted in the courts as homosexuals and, after serving their terms, were sent to the camps. As the result of denunciations, politicals or criminals have been put in this group and a number of Roehm's followers as well. The homosexuals do not, however, consider themselves a group. Like the asocials, they attempt to make contact with the more powerful prisoner groups and have no significance as a group in the society of the prisoners.

6. Emigrants: Blue Triangle. The emigrants consist mostly of Germans who have returned from foreign countries hoping to find better living conditions in the new Germany. Many have been in the French Foreign Legion, or workers in Belgium or France. They were sent to the camps because they could not satisfactorily explain the reasons for their return, and the Gestapo suspected they might be spies or couriers for the underground. A number of Jews, who either returned to Germany voluntarily or were caught trying to enter the

country without a passport, belong to this category. A number of stateless Jews are also included.

The emigrants have no community life at all; but, as individuals, they have connections with all the important groups, including the asocials.

7. "Race Polluters": Black Triangular Frame. The so-called "Race Polluters" (Rassenschänder) are mostly Jewish prisoners. Some of them had served terms for violating the prohibitions against cohabitation between Jews and gentiles included in the Nuremberg laws; others were sent to a camp following a denunciation. The non-Jewish prisoners in this category are called Artvergessen ("one who forgets his race"). Mainly Jewish, this group has contacts with the political, criminal, and asocial Jews, and often forms a bridge between them.

8. New Categories since 1939. Since the beginning of the war, additional categories of prisoners have been created. These include:

Norwegians: insignia, black "N" in a red triangle;

Poles: insignia, black "P" in a red triangle;

German army deserters and other army personnel: insignia, black "SAW" (Sonderaktion Wehrmacht) in a red triangle;

Black marketeers: insignia large "E" (Erziehungs-gefangene; literally, "a prisoner to be re-educated").[1]

9. Other Insignia. Certain insignia used in the camps do not represent categories of prisoners but refer only to a special matter relating to the individual prisoner. For example, second-termers (Zweitmalige) wear a color bar over the prescribed triangle. In some camps such prisoners are

1. British Civil Affairs Handbook, Part 11, ch. VI. Appendix I; CID 65808.

put in the punishment company; in other camps they are restricted in the matters of mail, money, or smoking. A prisoner who has tried to escape or one who has lived in the neighborhood of the camp and presumably knows the surrounding area is required to wear a red mark below the triangle, signifying "danger of escape." Prisoners with this sign are never used in work outside the barbed wire enclosures.

A yellow badge on the right arm with the word Bloed (Idiot) is worn by prisoners who have become mentally unbalanced as a consequence of torture or imprisonment.[1] Such prisoners do only easy work in a special unit, but they are in constant danger of being sterilized. Blind and partially blind prisoners wear a yellow badge with three black points; they are exempt from punishment if they fail to salute an SS man. Deaf prisoners wear the same insignia.

The proportion of prisoners in each of the major categories (all camps taken together) is estimated as follows:

Asocials	38 percent
Criminals	20 percent
Politicals	18 percent
Jehovah's Witnesses	8 percent
"Race polluters"	8 percent
Emigrants	6 percent
Homosexuals	2 percent

What have been called the vertical groups are determined by the official designation of the prisoners. Within these vertical groupings, as has been shown, a certain amount of internal group life is achieved. But overriding these vertical lines are factors of race, nationality, length of internment, etc., which lead to the formation of what may be defined as horizontal groupings. In other words, a prisoner may belong to the asocial group (his vertical category) and wear the official black triangle, but may also be a newcomer, an old-timer

1. A small number of successful fakers have managed to acquire this badge.

or an Austrian and thus belong, in the terms of the prisoner society, to a horizontal category.

B. Horizontal Prisoner Groups

1. Jews. The Jews are the most prominent horizontal prisoner group. They wear a yellow triangle superimposed upon the triangle specifying the official (vertical) category, thereby forming a six-pointed star, the so-called Star of David. The criteria for determining Jewish ancestory are more severe in the camps than those laid down by the Nuremberg laws: one Jewish great-grandparent is sufficient. Jewish prisoners in any category are treated more harshly than the non-Jews.

According to recent reports, very few Jews are now in German concentration camps because most of them were deported to the large Jewish camps in Poland in 1942.

2. Nationalities. Various nationalities in the camps also form groups. When, after 1938, Austrians were brought to the camps, they did not get along with the German prisoners. This nurtured a common feeling among all Austrian prisoners irrespective of their categories or "race"; even after relations between the two groups improved, the Austrians maintained their national feeling, although it was not so strong as in the beginning. A similar situation developed among the Czechoslovakian prisoners who had fewer difficulties with the Austrians than with the Germans. Very little is known about the other national groups in the concentration camps, except that some of them are kept in separate camps.

3. Newcomers and Old-timers. Groups also develop on the basis of the length of time a prisoner has served:

a. The Newcomers. Prisoners enter a camp either in large groups as victims of round-ups, or individually after serving in prison. In some camps, the newcomers are

flogged as soon as they are received, in others they must stand at attention and go without water for two days, etc. During the first weeks they are called for extra fatigue and special drill at night, in order to "break them in." Most of the suicides occur during this period. A newcomer remains in this category until another transport arrives, whereupon he loses his special status and slips into the ranks of the ordinary prisoners.

b. The Old-timers. Prisoners who have been in the camp more than three years call themselves "old-timers." They know the SS officials and in some respects receive better treatment from them. They are usually able to avoid hard work and are punished less frequently than the other prisoners.

4. Honor Prisoners. Little is known about the "honor prisoners" (Ehrenhaeftlinge). In nearly every camp there are a few of them. They are probably former high SS officials who were put into the camp for failure in their duty. They sometimes wear the political insignia, sometimes none at all. They live outside the Schutzhaftlager, keep apart from the other prisoners, do no work, and have very close contact with the SS administration.[1]

5. Punishment Company. The punishment company is the only group where prisoners of all categories and "races" are lumped together. They are completely isolated from the other inmates, deprived of mail and tobacco, and permitted no time off. Jehovah's Witnesses and second-termers often spend their whole imprisonment in the punishment company; others are confined for a limited time only.

C. Camp Routine and Food

1. Schedule. The schedule is not the same for every camp, but until 1939 the working day was usually thirteen

1. The former camp commander of Lichtenburg was an honor prisoner in Buchenwald in 1939.

or more hours. The daily schedule during 1936 to 1939 was approximately as follows: 13 hours were devoted to work; 2 hours to formations and roll calls; 1½ hours to meals; 6½ hours to rest; and 1 hour to free time. Some camps worked seven days a week; in other camps Sunday afternoon was taken off. With the beginning of the war, however, the work day increased to fifteen or sixteen hours.[1]

2. Work. Before 1939, the chief work of the prisoners was building the Schutzhaftlager, the SS-Lager and necessary installations. The abundant supply of slave labor permitted the camp administrations to make wide use of manpower, especially in the vast drainage projects that were initiated in the early years of the Nazi regime. After the beginning of the war the prisoners were used more and more for war work.[2]

3. Food. Food in the concentration camps is similar to the food in the German prisons. The daily ration consists of:

2 cups of ersatz coffee;
300 grams of bread (low quality);
1 plate of vegetable soup (mostly turnip) sometimes with pieces of specially prepared whale meat, called Polaris;
a piece of fish or cheese twice a week.

Before 1939 some camps had good canteens where the prisoners could buy extra food, but these were abolished after the war began.[3] It has been reported that a parcel food service has been established in Dachau since October 1942.

During the winter, many prisoners are constantly ill, because of the fatless food.

4. Medical Care. The SS doctor in charge of the prison hospital (Revier) does not consider himself responsible for the

1. Report by Belgian Information Center, New York, 6 December 1943.
2. Central European Observer, London, July 1942; CID 65808, 24 March 1944.
3. Ibid., London, July 1942; CID 50705, 1 December 1943.

health of the prisoners. Medical examinations and treatment are in the hands of prisoner officials, and even dentistry and minor operations are done by them. It is seldom that a doctor is allowed to work in the Revier; most of the treatment is in the hands of men who were once members of the army medical corps, usually during the last war, or others who have no medical knowledge at all.

Since the treatment in the Revier is sub-standard (often no drugs or bandages are available), many prisoners prefer to treat themselves, but complicated operations and amputations are done by SS doctors in the SS hospital.

5. Deaths and Suicides. The estimated annual death rate for German concentration camps during the period 1938-1939 (excluding killings, executions, and suicides) was 15 percent.[1] Many of the deaths are the consequence of extreme malnutrition; during the winter months pneumonia claims many victims.

Suicides occur frequently, because the SS administration encourages the practice. Prisoners placed in solitary cells are often given a length of rope. Prisoners who are disliked by their Blockführer may be given a rope and ordered to kill themselves. If they are still alive on the next day, they are beaten up by the Blockführer and the order is repeated. This sometimes goes on for weeks, until the prisoner commits suicide, or the Blockführer tires.[2]

D. Activities and Attitude of the Prisoners

The SS administration tries systematically to destroy a prisoner's personality. In the midst of the organized

1. This estimate was made in London(August 1939) after interrogations of former prisoners who worked in a camp hospital.
2. In Dachau (1938) a special order on suicides was issued. It announced that prisoners who try to commit suicide and do not succeed, prisoners who try to prevent another prisoner's suicide, and prisoners who try to bring back to life a prisoner who has committed suicide will be punished by twenty-five lashes and confinement in a solitary cell.

terror, the social organization of the prisoners provides the framework within which groups or individuals find their place and their functions. As a whole this prisoner society opposes the terror of the administration, fends off the attacks upon the individuality of its members, and defends and preserves their desire to remain human beings. The purpose of the social organization of the prisoners is to overcome the rigidities and barriers of the official system of classification by race and crime.

1. The Prisoners' Code. The prisoners have their own code and rules of conduct by which an individual prisoner is evaluated: he is put in important positions, he is isolated and even killed as a traitor if by violating the code he endangers the society or the life of its members.[1]

The most important rule of conduct is: Don't draw attention to yourself. It is dangerous to be better or worse than the average. A good prisoner does no more or less work in the barracks or on a job than is absolutely necessary in order to be left alone by the SS.

2. Cultural and Political Life of the Prisoners. Most of the prisoners live in small groups. The political prisoners form "collectives" of three to six men who try to dwell in the same barracks and work in the same groups. The prisoners pool their money and jointly buy food in the canteen; they endeavor to keep some stock for an emergency. Every member of such a collective is bound to help the other members and can count on their help. This system of mutual help makes life in the camp much easier. The political prisoners are, however, not interested in getting new members for their

1. In Buchenwald (1939) two prisoners were killed as informers by their fellow prisoners.

collectives; a newcomer must have good recommendations and is very carefully questioned before he is allowed to join. The main interest of the political prisoners is to keep their cadre alive -- not to recruit new members.

During work or at night the collectives have discussions or lectures on political or scientific subjects. A steady contact is maintained between the different collectives for the purpose of sharing news and information. The non-political, intellectual prisoners also establish small discussion groups which are sometimes influenced by the political prisoners. The discussions and lectures are an important part in the life of the prisoners because they help to counteract the effects of regimentation.

The possession of any writing material, however, is dangerous, because the administration views it as an attempt to smuggle messages out of the camp. Prisoners are frequently rounded up so that the SS may examine the contents of their pockets.

Songs and poems are often written by the prisoners and nearly every camp has its own "official" camp song.

3. Religious Activities. Although religious exercises are prohibited and punished by the SS, services are held in secrecy. Catholic and Protestant clergy conduct services for members of their faith. The Jehovah's Witnesses hold regular services in their barracks. Orthodox Jews secretly observe their religious customs. In view of the rigors of camp life, however, Rabbis have freed orthodox members from the necessity of observing the dietary laws (Kashruth) of the Jewish religion.

4. Treatment of Personal Property. In the prisoners' society the concept of private property has been changed. The personal belongings of a member of a collective go to

the collective in case of his release or death. Prisoners do carry a few personal belongings in their pockets or in their breadbags, but these things are theirs only so long as no SS-man cares to take them away.

Stealing among companions, is one of the worst crimes a prisoner can commit. The prisoners' code requires that the guilty man be beaten and ostracized.

Some prisoners make tools which they use for repair jobs on false teeth, eyeglasses, etc. In order to have raw materials for this work, they are often compelled to steal the eyeglasses and the false teeth of dead prisoners. This is, however, dangerous because the SS prescribes heavy punishment for corpse robbing.

5. Attitude toward Escape. In the first years of the concentration camps some prisoners managed to escape.[1] Since 1936 the security measures in the camps have been so well organized that there are almost no possibilities of getting away.[2] Since all the prisoners are punished if one of them is missing, escape is considered by the prisoners as an anti-social act.[3] The political prisoners often discuss this matter and the general opinion is: A prisoner has the moral right to escape only if he is of real importance to the underground.

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1. Gerhard Seger escaped in 1933 from Oranienburg, and Hans Beimler in 1933 from Dachau. Quite a number of prisoners escaped in 1934 from the camps near Papenburg and succeeded in getting to Holland.
2. In 1938, two prisoners escaped from Buchenwald after killing an SS man. One of them was captured two weeks later in Germany; the other escaped to Czechoslovakia, but was handed over to the Gestapo as a consequence of the Munich agreement. Both were court-martialed and hanged in Buchenwald in front of the other prisoners.
3. When two men escaped from Buchenwald in December 1938, the whole camp was forced to stand at attention in the bitter cold for nine hours. Fifty prisoners were reported to have died during this episode.

6. Possibilities of Resistance. Since every form of open resistance is punishable by death, prisoners can show their opposition only by cleverly concealed acts of sabotage. Sabotage is attempted by individuals and groups on all possible occasions. The prisoners bury scrap metal, whole boxes of nails and screws, unregistered tools, etc. When constructing new buildings, they fill the empty spaces between the walls with paper and coal in order to make them more combustible in case of a fire. Occasionally, a kind of passive resistance is conducted by the prisoners; since it is not possible to work slowly, they do the same job over and over again, or do it the most complicated way in order to consume more time.

Appendix. CONCENTRATION CAMPS LOCATED WITHIN GERMANY
(As it was before 1937)

Key to Abbreviations

Bel. Inf.	Belgian Information Center, New York
Crim.	Criminal prisoners
ECRFPA	Europäische Konferenz fuer Recht u. Freiheit. Paris Nov. 13.37
Mil. pers.	Military personnel
NPG	Normal prisoner group, consisting of: political, criminal, asocial, Jewish, emigrant, homosexual, Bible Students, "race corrupter" prisoners
Nor. Inf.	Norwegian Information Center, New York
OWI	Office of War Information
PIFP	Personal interrogation of former prisoners
POW	Prisoners of War
Pol. Rew.	The Polish Review, Publication of Polish Information Centre, N.Y.
SA	Sturmabteilung
S3RPR	Der Strafvollzug im 3. Reich publ. by Union fuer Recht u. Freiheit, Prag 1936.
SPDLO	Report by Social Democratic Party of Germany, London March 1938
Stalag.	Stammlager fuer POW
SS	Schutzstaffel (Totenkopf Verband)
UNLNY	United Nations Library of Information, New York

Identification of German Concentration Camps

Many of the small camps, listed in the following schedule, were set up between 1933 and 1935, but were dissolved after 1937. At the beginning of the war a large number of the dissolved camps were reopened as concentration camps for prisoners from the occupied countries. Beginning in 1941, many new large camps were set up and at the same time some of the old camps were enlarged and placed in use as prisoner of war camps.

Estimates of the Present Number of Prisoners

A reasonable estimate of the present number of prisoners in the German concentration camps within the 1937 boundaries of the Reich ranges from a low of 170,000 to a high of 370,000. These figures have been arrived at by the following computations: in the case of the lower figure, the population of

the concentration camps definitely known to be in existence have been totalled; in case of the higher figure, it has been assumed that all camps listed are still in existence and where the prisoner population is not known an estimate has been made.

Since there are large numbers of prisoners of non-German nationality known to be in German concentration camps, it is impossible to give a nationality breakdown of the prisoners in the concentration camps.

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Name	Location	Administrative district	Geographical coordinate (approximate) N.	E.	Number of prisoners	Type of prisoner	Guards	Last date of report	Notes	Sources
Dornburg	near Proedel	Anhalt	52.05	11.55	800	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Rosslau	near Dessau	Anhalt	51.50	12.13	-	a) NPG	SS	March 38	closed in 38	SPDLO
						b) Women	FWS	6 Sept. 43	reopened in 43	UNLNY
Tornau	near Dessau	Anhalt	51.50	12.13	900	German soldiers	SS	19 May 43	Army Prison	CID 37492
Ankenbuck	near Villingen	Baden	48.3	8.28	-	a) NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
						b) POW	-	25 July 43	Stalag	SJ 36805
Bad Duerrheim	near Villingen	Baden	48.3	8.28	-	NPG	SS	April 38		SPDLO
Heuberg	near Villingen	Baden	48.3	8.28	-	a) NPG	SS	April 38		SPDLO
						b) Sold.	SS & SA	April 42	Training camp for Div. 999	Int. w. POW
Kislau	near Bruchsal	Baden	49.7	8.36	900	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Rastatt	SW of Karlsruhe	Baden	49.1	8.23	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Singen	Near Aach	Baden	47.50	8.52	-	NPG	-	14 Nov. 42	Prisoners are Germans from abroad	CID M-236

IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Name	Location	Administrative district	Geographic coordinate (approximate) N.	E.	Number of prisoners	Type of prisoner	Guards	Last date of report	Notes	Sources
Bayreuth	near Bayreuth	Bavaria	49.57	11.34	400	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Bernau	near Rosenheim	Bavaria	47.52	12.8	14,000	-	SS	15 Jan. 44	Prisoners held for minor crimes	OWI
Dachau	near Muenchen	Bavaria	48.8	11.35	10,000	NPG	SS	1 Jan. 44	-	
Flossenberg	near Weiden	Bavaria	49.41	12.10	2,000	NPG	SS	June 43	-	Polish Review
Hof	near Weiden	Bavaria	49.41	12.10	600	Crim.	SS	August 38	-	PIFP
Landsberg	near Bruchlos	Bavaria	48.3	10.53	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Laufen	near Rosenhain	Bavaria	47.52	12.8	800	Women	PWS	15 Jan. 44	near Camp Bernau	OWI
Limburg	near Attel	Bavaria	48.2	12.11	-	NPG	SS	5 Feb. 44	also Russian POW	CID 94345
Neustadt	near Neustadt	Bavaria	49.35	10.38	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Schirmitz	near Weiden	Bavaria	49.41	12.10	-	-	SS	24 Sept. 42	-	CID 227 21
Stadelheim	near Muenchen	Bavaria	48.8	11.35	-	-	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Wuerzburg	near Wuerzburg	Bavaria	49.48	9.56	-	-	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Columbiahaus	Berlin	Berlin	52.32	13.25	-	NPG	SS	Jan. 44	-	OWI
Olympic Village	near Berlin	Berlin	52.32	13.25	6,000	NPG	SS	22 Apr. 42	former housing ground for Olympic athletes	CID 15387

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IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Name	Location	Administrative district	Geographic coordinate (approximate) N.	E.	Number of prisoners	Type of prisoner	Guards	Last date of report	Notes	Sources
Alt Daber	near Wusterhausen	Brandenburg	52.53	12.27	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPG
Bernau	near Berlin	Brandenburg	52.32	13.25	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Boernicke	near Nauen	Brandenburg	52.36	12.52	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Boetzow	near Spandau	Brandenburg	52.32	13.13	800	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Brandenburg	near Brandenburg	Brandenburg	52.25	12.33	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Jueterbog	S of Berlin	Brandenburg	51.59	13.4	1,200	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Lichterfelde	near Eberswalde	Brandenburg	52.50	13.49	-	a) NPG b) POW	SS	36 11 Feb. 44	-	S3RPR
Meinsdorf	near Jueterbog	Brandenburg	51.59	13.4	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Oranienburg	near Berlin	Brandenburg	52.32	13.25	3,000	NPG	SS	8 Sept. 43	reopened in 41	
Sachsenhausen	near Berlin	Brandenburg	52.32	13.25	25,000	NPG	SS	12 Dec. 43	-	FW/BR/b61623
Senftenberg	near Calau	Brandenburg	51.45	13.57	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Soldin Zuchthaus	near Berlin	Brandenburg	52.32	13.25	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SDPLO PW/BR/B
Sonnenberg	near Berlin	Brandenburg			900	Norweg.	-	27 Dec. 43	-	61623
Wolfenbuettel	near Helmstaedt	Braunschweig	52.14	11.1	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Bremen	near Bremen	Bremen	53.5	8.43	-	Jews Poles Spaniards	SS	31 Jan. 44	-	SJ49411
Halsteet	near Bremen	Bremen	53.5	8.43	-	NPG	SS	March 38		SPDLO
Langluetgen	near Bremen	Bremen	53.5	8.43	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR

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IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Name	Location	Administrative district	Geographic coordinate (approximate) N.	E.	Number of prisoners	Type of prisoner	Guards	Last date of report	Notes	Sources
Stutthof	near Danzig	Danzig	54.21	18.4	6,000	NPG & mil. per	SS	a) 19 May 43 b) 4 Jan. 44	male & female prisoners Norwegian prisoners	CID 37292 Nor. Inf.
Fuhlsbuettel	near Hamburg	Hamburg	53.33	10.0	3,000	NPG	SS	27 Dec. 43	-	
Neuen Gamme	near Hamburg	Hamburg	53.33	10.0	3,000	NPG	SS	a) Oct. 43 b) 28 Jan. 44	Gas chamber -	CID 51064
Wittmoor	near Hamburg	Hamburg	53.33	10.0	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Aschendorf a MOOR	near Papenburg	Hannover	53.6	7.25	1,700	mil. pers.	SA	19 May 43	Sonderkonzentrationslager	CID 37292
Berenbostel	near Hannover	Hannover	52.23	9.44	25,000	NPG	SS	24 Jan. 44	-	Pol. Tel. A
Bergen Belsen	near Celle	Hannover	52.37	10.5	-	Jews	SS	17 Feb. 44	-	N Y Times
Boergermoor	near Papenburg	Hannover	53.6	7.25	1,500	NPG	SA	19 May 43	-	CID 37292
Brual Rhede	near Aschendorf	Hannover	53.3	7.19	-	NPG	SS	Nov. 37	-	ECRFPA
Lager No. 21	near Hannover	Hannover	52.23	9.44	600	NPG	SS	11 Jan. 43	-	Bel. Inf.
Esterwegen	near Papenburg	Hannover	53.6	7.25	2,000	mil. per	SA	19 May 43	-	CID 37292
Harpstedt	near Bassum	Hannover	52.52	8.43	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Lathen	near Papenburg	Hannover	53.6	7.25	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Mooringen	near Goettingen	Hannover	51.32	9.56	800	women	SS	August 36	mostly political	New Rep.
Neusustrum	near Papenburg	Hannover	53.6	7.25	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Oberlangen	near Papenburg	Hannover	53.6	7.25	-	NPG	SS	Nov. 37	-	ECRFPA
Papenburg	near Papenburg	Hannover	53.6	7.25	2,000	Jews Poles	SS	5 May 43	-	CID 39590
Griesheimersand	near Griesheim	Hessen	49.52	8.33	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Langen	N of Darmstadt	Hessen	49.52	8.39	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Osthofen	near Mainz	Hessen	50.0	8.17	-	NPG	SS	1939	-	4 years of Nazi terror

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IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Names	Location	Administrative district	Geographic coordinate (approximate) N.	E.	Number of prisoners	Type of prisoner	Guards	Last date of report	Notes	Sources
Benninghausen	near Burscheid	Rheinland	51.6	7.8	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Beyenburg	near Wuppertal	Rheinland	51.25	7.15	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Braunweiler	near Bad Kreuznach	Rheinland	49.51	7.52	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Drente-Westerbrock	near Straelen	Rheinland	51.27	6.15	-	NPG	SS	Sept. 43	-	CID 45210
Dueren	near Aachen	Rheinland	50.47	6.5	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Holbeckshof	near Essen	Rheinland	51.26	7.0	-	Jews	SS	Sept. 42	-	TRI9050/42
Juelich	near Aachen	Rheinland	50.47	6.5	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Kemna	near Wuppertal	Rheinland	51.25	7.15	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Koblenz-Karnerita	near Koblenz	Rheinland	50.21	7.36	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Koblenz-Kartause	near Koblenz	Rheinland	50.21	7.36	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Muehlheim	near Duisburg	Rheinland	51.26	6.45	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Siegburg	near Bonn	Rheinland	50.44	7.4	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Wuppertal	near Wuppertal	Rheinland	51.25	7.15	1,800	NPG	SS	22 Jan. 44	-	B.I. Inf.
Bautzen	W. of Dresden	Sachsen	51.3	13.45	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Colditz	near Grimma	Sachsen	51.14	12.43	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Crimmitzschau	near Zwickau	Sachsen	50.43	12.29	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Mathildenschloeschen	near Dresden	Sachsen	51.3	13.45	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Gruenenheinichen	near Chemnitz	Sachsen	50.50	12.55	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Hainewalde	near Zittau	Sachsen	50.54	14.48	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO

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IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Name	Location	Administrative district	Geographic coordinate (approximate) N.	E.	Number of prisoners	Type of prisoner	Guards	Last date of report	Notes	Sources
Fochenheim	near Offenbach	Hess. Nassau	50.6	8.45	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Ginzheim	near Wiesbaden	Hess. Nassau	50.4	8.14	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Kassel	near Kassel	Hess. Nassau	51.19	9.28	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Roedelsheim	near Frankfurth aM	Hess. Nassau	50.6	8.4	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Wilsede	S of Lueneburg	Hess. Nassau	53.16	10.25	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Ravensbrueck	near Fuerstenberg	Mecklenburg	53.11	13.9	500	Women	PWS	27 Dec. 43	-	
Strelitz	near Fuerstenberg	Mecklenburg			-	NPG	SS	Feb. 41	-	UNLNY
Vechta	S of Oldenburg	Oldenburg	53.9	8.13	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Grundaus	near Koenigsberg	Ost. Preussen	54.42	20.3	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Labiau	near Koenigsberg	Ost. Preussen			-	Poles	SS	July 43	-	Pol. Rew.
Hammerstein	near Schlochau	Pommern	53.41	16.57	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Hohenbrueck	near Cammin	Pommern	53.58	14.47	-	Poles	SS	July 43	-	Pol. Rew.
Schneidemuehl	near Deutsch Krone	Pommern	53.16	16.28	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Vulkan-Werft	near Stettin	Pommern	53.25	14.34	-	NPG	SS	April 37	-	Neue Weltbuehne Pr.
Erfurt	near Erfurt	Prov. Sachsen	50.58	11.2	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Graefen-	near Grimma	Prov. Sachsen	51.14	12.43	-	NPG	SS	March 38		

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IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Name	Location	Administrative district	Geographic coordinate (approximate) N.	E.	Number of prisoners	Type of prisoner	Guards	Last date of report	Notes	Sources
Hohnstein	E of Dresden	Sachsen	51.3	13.45	-	a) NPG b) POW	SS Army	March 38 5 Apr. 43	- Stammlager 1B	
Koenigstein	near Pirna	Sachsen	50.57	13.57	-	a) NPG b) POW	SS Army	36 12 Dec. 43	- Disciplinary camp f. Officers	S3RPR
St. Georgs Hospital	near Leipzig	Sachsen	51.20	12.23	-	women	PWS	Apr. 37	-	Neue Weltbuehne
Lichtenburg	near Torgau	Sachsen	51.34	13.15	1,100	NPG	SS	20 Feb. 44		CID 60287
Ortenstein	near Zittau	Sachsen	50.54	14.48	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Osterstein	near Kirchberg	Sachsen	50.37	12.32	-	NPG	SS	March 36	-	SPDLO
Reichenbach	near Zwickau	Sachsen	50.43	12.29	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Sachsenburg	near Flocha	Sachsen	50.52	13.3	1,500	NPG	SS	March 36	-	Living Age
Sonnenburg	near Chemnitz	Sachsen	50.50	12.55	1,500	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Zoerbig	near Bitterfeld	Sachsen	51.37	12.20	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Frankenstein	near Neisse	Schlesien	50.29	17.20	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Frankental	near Neumarkt	Schlesien	51.9	16.35	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	S3RPR
Gross Rosen	near Strieglau	Schlesien	50.55	16.20	-	Poles	SS	Ju 43	-	Pol. Rew.
Leschwitz	near Goerlitz	Schlesien	51.10	15.0	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Muensterberg	S of Breslau	Schlesien	51.7	17.0	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Waldenburg	near Schweidnitz	Schlesien	50.51	16.28	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Ahrensboeck	near Eutin	Schleswig Holstein	54.9	10.37	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Am Suhrskamp	near Ratzeburg	Schleswig Holstein	53.43	10.47	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Eutin	near Neumuenster	Schleswig Holstein	54.5	10.0	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Glueckstadt	near Glueckstadt	Schleswig Holstein	53.48	9.25	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Heide	near Toenning	Schleswig Holstein	54.19	8.59	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Ochtumsand	near Oldenburg	Schleswig Holstein	54.19	10.54	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR

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IDENTIFICATION OF GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Name	Location	Administrative district	Geographic coordinate (approximate) N.	E.	Number of prisoners	Type of prisoner	Guards	Last date of report	Notes	Sources
Rendsburg	near Kiel	Schleswig Holstein	54.20	10.9	400	Norweg.	-	27 Dec. 43	-	
Rickling	near Neumuenster	Schleswig Holstein	54.5	10.0	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Blankenheim	near Weimar	Thueringen	50.58	11.20	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Buchenwald	near Weimar	Thueringen	50.58	11.20	20,000	NPG	SS	4 Jan. 44	-	Norw. Inf.
Bad Sulza	near Jena	Thueringen	50.56	11.35	3,000	Russians	SS	Jan. 43	-	Freies Deutschland Mexico
Untermassfeld	near Meuningen	Thueringen	50.34	10.24	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Bergkamen	near Kamen	Westphalen	51.36	7.39	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Eilpe	near Altena	Westphalen	51.18	7.40	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Osnabrueck	near Osnabrueck	Westphalen	52.17	8.3	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Sennelager	near Neuhaus	Westphalen	51.44	8.43	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Wanne Eickel	near Bochum	Westphalen	51.29	7.11	-	NPG	SS	March 38	-	SPDLO
Wattenscheid	near Bochum	Westphalen	51.29	7.11	-	NPG	SS	36	-	S3RPR
Gotteszell	near Gmuend	Wuertemberg	48.48	9.48	-	NPG	SS	April 37	-	Neue Weltbuehne
Kuhberg	near Blaubeuren	Wuertemberg	48.26	9.47	-	NPG	SS	Nov. 37	-	ECRFPA
Welzheim	near Schorndorf	Wuertemberg	48.48	9.33	-	NPG	SS	April 37	-	Neue Weltbuehne

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German Concentration Camps with Unknown Location

Jewish concentration camp between Leipzig and Breslau.

12 March 44. "The Jewish Way" NYC
Reports from POW of English nationality: In a small village between Leipzig and Breslau near the railway POW found a Jewish concentration camp. Hundreds of men and women half starving were held behind barbed wire.

Camp Blaricum Aug. 43 CID 45210

Camp Westerbork Oct. 43 London CID 51064

2,200 prisoners, many ill, were transported in cattle cars from camp Westerbork on 20 July 43. (Probably camp Westerbork in Holland.)

Camp Kaefertal Source H .26 Feb. 44.

Italians are held in camp Kaefertal. (Camp Kaefertal is probably located between Mannheim and Heidelberg in Baden.)

Camp Luckerwalde Source H 9 Feb. 44.

French prisoners are held in camp Luckerwalde, Mecklenburg. (No place in Mecklenburg could be found with the name Luckerwalde, but there is a village Luckerwalde near Jueterbog in Brandenburg.)

Camp between Neustadt and Neisse, Silesia. Aug. 43 CID 45210

Concentration camp for German soldiers. 23 Dec. 42. CID 26261

A special concentration camp (Sonder Konzentrationslager) has been set up for suspected German soldiers, returning from the Russian front.

Concentration camp in Eastern Prussia. 12 June 43. CID 37358

A concentration camp for German officers and men, deserters from the army, has been set up in Eastern Prussia. There are 2,000 prisoners. They are clad in Polish uniforms to hide the fact that there are so many German deserters.

Due to its large size, the following document has been filmed in segments. The order of the segments is as follows: left to right, top to bottom.

PROVISIONAL EDITION

6° 8° 10° 12° 14° 16° 18°

54° 52° 50°

NORTH SEA

DENMARK

SWEDEN

BALTIC SEA

NETHERLANDS

BELGIUM

LUXEMBOURG

Flensburg
Tönning
HEIDE
RENDSBURG (400)
Kiel
Oldenburg
AHRENSBÖCK
OLDENBURG
Eutin
EUTIN
RICKLING
Neumünster
Stralsund
Rostock
Wismar
Lübeck
AM SUHRSKAMP
Ratzeburg
SCHWERIN
Cuxhaven
Glückstadt
GLÜCKSTADT
HAMBURG
Emden
ASCHENDORF A MOOR (1700)
BOERGERMOOR (1500)
ESTERWEGEN (1600)
LATHEN (1600)
OBERLANGEN
NEUSTRUM
PAPENBURG (2000)
Papenburg
Aschendorf
EMSAL RHEDE
VECHTA
Oldenburg
Bremen
BREMEN
HALSTEET
LANGELUIGEN
FUHLSBUETTEL (3000)
NEUEN GAMME (3000)
WITTMOOR
Wilsede
WILSEDE
Lüneburg
Müritz (Waren)
RAVENSBRUECK (600)
STRELITZ
Fürstenberg
STETTIN
VULCAN-WERFT
Wittenberge
Bassum
HARPSTEDT
Nienburg
BERGEN BELSEN
Celle
Wusterhausen
ALT DABER
Nauen
BOERNICKE
Spandau
Eberswalde
ORANIENBURG (3000)
Oranienburg
LICHTERFELDE
BERNAU
COLUMBIAHAUS
OLYMPIC VILLAGE (6000)
SACHSENHAUSEN (25000)
SOLDIN
ZUCHTHAUS SONNENBERG (900)
BERLIN
Gdynia
DANZIG
Stolp
Kolberg
HORST-BUECK
Swinemünde
Kammin
Schlochau
HAMMERSTEIN
Deutsch Krone
SCHNEIDEMUEHL
Schneidemühl
Bydgoszcz
POZNAŃ
Schwiebus
FRANKFURT A ODER
Leszno
Sorau
Glogau
Liegnitz
Kepno
Gorlitz
LESCHWITZ
Neumarkt
FRANKENTAL
BRESLAU
MUENSTERBERG
Striegau
GROSS ROSEN
Schweidnitz
WARTENBURG
OPPELN
FRANKENSTEIN
Neisse
HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ
PRAHA
PLZEN
OSNABRÜCK
Osnabrück
Mindeh
HANNOVER
SENNELAGER
BERENBOSTEL (25000)
LAGER NO. 21 (600)
Braunschweig
WOLFENBUETTEL
Helmstedt
Magdeburg
Warburg
MOORINGEN (800)
Göttingen
KASSEL
KASSEL
Frankenberg
Marburg
Hersfeld
Giessen
Fulda
Eisenach
ERFURT
EFURT
Weimar
Jena
BLANKENHEIM
BUCHENWALD (20000)
BAD SULZA (3000)
Meiningen
UNTERMASSFELD
Lichtenfels
Bayreuth
BAYREUTH (400)
NEUSTADT
Neustadt
Weiden
Würzburg
WÜRZBURG
Brandenburg
DORNBURG (800)
BRANDENBURG
Proedel
KOSSLAU
TORNAU (900)
BOETZOW (800)
JÜTERBOG (1200)
MEINSDORF
Jüterbog
Dessau
Wittenberg
ZOERBIG
Bitterfeld
Torgau
LICHTENBURG (1100)
COLDITZ
GRAEFENHEINCHEN
SENFTENBERG
Calau
Finsterwalde
HALLE
Leipzig
ST. GEORGS HOSPITAL
Grimma
BAUTZEN
KOHNSTEIN
MATHILDEN-SCHLOESSCHEN
SACHSENBURG (1500)
DRESDEN
KOENIGSTEIN
Pirna
Freiberg
Chemnitz
Flöha
Zittau
CRIMMITSCHAU
REICHENBACH
Zwickau
Kirchberg
OSTERSTEIN
GRUENENHEINCHEN
SONNENBURG (1500)
HAINEWALDE
ORTENSTEIN
MÜNSTER
WANNE EICKEL
WATTENSCHEID
BERGKAMEN
Hamm
Dortmund
Bochum
HUEHLHEIM
HOLBECKSHOF
ESSEN
Duisburg
DRENTE-WESTERBROCK
Straelen
WUPPERTAL
Düsseldorf
EILPE
Altena
DUEREN
JUELICH
Burscheid
KÖLN
BENNINGHAUSEN
BEYENBURG
KEMNA
WUPPERTAL (1800)
Aachen
Bonn
SIEGBURG
Koblenz
GINSHEIM
OSTHOFEN
KOBLENZ-KARMELITA
KOBLENZ-KARTAUSE
FRANKFURT
MAINZ
ROEDELSHEIM
FOCHENHEIM
LANGEN
Darmstadt
Bad Kreuznach
BRAUNWEILER
GRIESHEIMERSAND
Mannheim

8° 10° 12° 14° 16° 18° 20° 22°

54° 52° 50°

D E N M A R K

S W E D E N

B A L T I C S E A

P O L A N D

Flensburg
Tönning
HEIDE
Kiel
RENDSBURG (400)
Oldenburg
ANNENHECHT
SANDBOSTEL
Eutin
EUTIN
BICKLING
Neumünster
Lübeck
Cuxhaven
Glückstadt
GLÜCKSTADT
HAMBURG
BREMEN
HALSTEE
LANGELEUTGEN
FUHLSBUETTEL (3000)
NEUEN GAMME (3000)
WITTMOOR
Oldenburg
Bremen
Wilsede
WILSEDE
Lüneburg
Hassum
HARPSTEDT
Nienburg
BERGEN BELSEN
Celle
Mindeh
HANNOVER
SENNELAGER
BERGENBOSTEL (25000)
LAGER NO. 21 (600)
Braunschweig
WOLFENBUETTEL
Helmstedt
Magdeburg
Warburg
MOORINGEN (800)
Göttingen
KASSEL
KASSEL
Marburg
Hersfeld
Giessen
Fulda
Eisenach
ERFURT
ERFURT
Weimar
Jena
BAD SULZA (3000)
Meiningen
UNTERMASSFELD
Lichtenfels
Würzburg
WÜRZBURG
Bayreuth
BAYREUTH (400)
Neustadt
Weiden
NEUSTADT
Ratzeburg
AM SUHRSKAMP
SCHWERIN
Wismar
Rostock
Stralsund
Müritz (Waren)
Fürstenberg
RAVENSBRUECK (500)
STRELITZ
Wittenberge
Wusterhausen
ALT DABER
Nauen
BOERNICKE
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VULCAN-WERFT
STETTIN
Swinemünde
Kammin
HORNBRUECK
Kolberg
Stolp
Gdynia
STETTHOF (6000)
DANZIG
Pillau
KÖNIGSBERG
GRUNDAUS
LABIAU
Insterburg
Lötzen
Lyck
Allenstein
Marienburg
Schlochau
HAMMERSTEIN
Deutsch Krone
SCHNEIDEMUEHL
Schneidemühl
Bydgoszcz
POZNAŃ
Schwiebus
FRANKFURT A ODER
Leszno
Sorau
Glogau
Calau
SENFTENBERG
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Gorlitz
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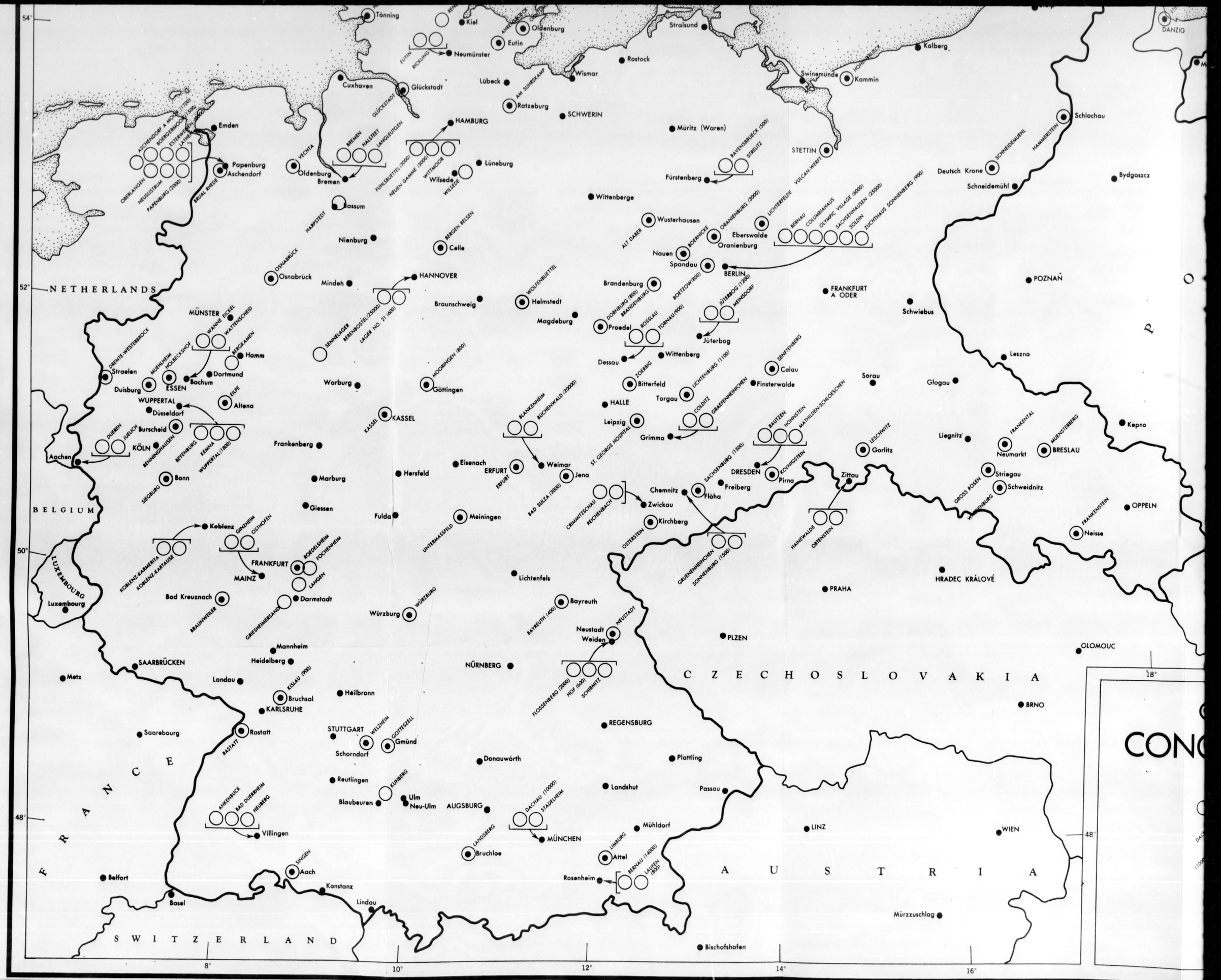
HAINEWALDE
ORTENSTEIN
Liegnitz
FRANKENTAL
Neumarkt
BRESLAU
MUENSTERBERG
Kepno
Striegau
Schweidnitz
GROSS ROSEN
WAldenburg
OPPELN
FRANKENSTEIN
Neisse
HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ
PRAHA
PLZEN
KRAKÓW

CAMPS NOT LOCATED ON MAP		
NAME OF CAMP	LOCATION	NO. OF PRISONERS
1	Bet. Leipzig and Breslau, near railroad	*Hundreds*
2 *Blaricum*		
3 *Westerbork*	Netherlands (?)	2200 +
4 *Koefertal*	Bet. Mannheim and Heidelberg (?)	
5 *Luckerwalde*	Near Jütorbog (?)	
6	Bet. Neustadt and Neisse	
7	East Prussia	2000
8	Southern Germany	
9 *Wakchum*	Near Neth. boundary	
10 *Glasmoor*	Norway (?)	



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GERMANY
CONCENTRATION CAMPS
(JUNE--1944)

○ CAMP *(LOCATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE)*

DACHAU NAME OF CAMP

(10000) CAPACITY OF CAMP *(WHERE KNOWN)*

NOTE: BOUNDARIES AS OF 1937

Reliability Code: 2B–2B–2

0 20 40 60 80 100 MILES

0 20 40 60 80 100 KILOMETERS

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